

THE DRAMA—MUSIC.

MR. HARRIGAN AS THE MAJOR.

In Harrigan's Theatre on Tuesday Mr. Harrigan effected an agreeable revival of his comic play called "The Major," and each night since he has pleased his audience by his blandly drill personation of its principal character. The play is a farce in low life. The springs of action are deceitful tricks, which lead to misunderstandings, cross-purposes, and general comic confusion. Of late years this public has seen many farces that were constructed on the same principle,—only in those the action has proceeded in drawing-rooms and amid elegant surroundings, and has implicated fashionable persons. In "The Major" the persons implicated are negroes, Irish people, and Germans of a common order, and the action passes upon a North River steamship pier, in an Irish boarding-house, and in a "postroom" that is kept by a negro. Mr. Harrigan, it is well known, possesses remarkable ingenuity in the contrivance of absurd situations, and in linking together the most unexpected and preposterous comic incidents. His art is lawless and his fancy is fertile, and, as he does not trouble himself about probability or style, he is able to weld together a most amazing fabric of ludicrous occurrence and hazard comically. At first sight "The Major" seems to be a mere wild medley, but after awhile the observer discerns in it a thread of reason and perceives the suggestion of a clear design.

Major Giltfeather, played by Mr. Harrigan, is a specious, insinuating, good-natured rogue—a sort of Captain Wragge of the gutter. He lives by dishonesty. He is not above theft. He mixes and meddles in the affairs of various persons, levying tribute upon all of them and settling them all by the ears. His object is to marry a precious Irish woman,—exceedingly well played by Mrs. Yeomans,—who keeps a boarding-house, and incidentally to adjust the relations of pairs of elderly and eccentric lovers who have got themselves wrongly assorted. His vacation takes him to a negro parlor, and he contrives that these two shall arrive there in time to be married, so that he may release them from their surprise obtain their release. All that the Major does is surreptitious. He is a scamp—but he is a comic scamp, and that redeems him. With the exception of the Major, the cast includes a host of characters, all of whom are grotesquely drawn in the character, and nearly all of them have got themselves wrongly assorted. His vacation takes him to a negro parlor, and he contrives that these two shall arrive there in time to be married, so that he may release them from their surprise obtain their release. All that the Major does is surreptitious. He is a scamp—but he is a comic scamp, and that redeems him.

The representation of "The Major" can be cordially commended to those readers who seek amusement at the play. It is diversified with intermissions of song and dance. The negro characters are made grotesque by Mr. John Wild, Mr. William West, and their associates. The formidable and vociferous Hibernal is made effective and amusing by Mr. Charlie Keeler. A additional stage drama actual and laughable by Miss Hattie Moore. The Germans are competently depicted by Mr. H. A. Fisher and Mr. George Merritt. An excellent animal spring and brawn humor of Mrs. Annie Yeomans adds the performance with vivacity and joy. Wild, inelegant and boisterous though "The Major" may be the revival of Mr. Harrigan's talents made a bright and rather a dull dramatic season, and it ought to be generally observed.

MR. TREET'S PERFORMANCES.

It was a gentle and gracious act on the part of Mr. Beethoven Tree to give one of the best of his performances and one of the strongest attractions in his repertory for the good of a charitable cause. Yesterday afternoon at Abbey's Theatre he acted Captain Swift, for the first time in America, and gave the receipts of the day to the afflicted sufferers by the dreadful and deplorable wreck of the steamship *Elbe*. The play was given to this audience, and it requires no present description, neither is there any performance more fit for critical remark.

Mr. Tree has long been distinguished for his personation of Captain Swift, a somewhat sinister character,—imperious, resolute, grimly humorous,—to which the pertinacity and obstinacy of his nature add much. He was seen by a numerous audience, notwithstanding the storm and the cold, and he was admired. Mr. Tree will repeat "Captain Swift" next Wednesday, and on Friday of next week will appear as Falstaff.

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra could measure last evening the high esteem in which it is held by the musical people of this city from the size of the audience that gathered to hear its fourth concert in the Metropolitan Opera House. That so many of its friends braved the storm and submitted to the inconveniences of interrupted traffic was a compliment to the orchestra. It was seen by a numerous audience, notwithstanding the storm and the cold, and he was admired. Mr. Tree will repeat "Captain Swift" next Wednesday, and on Friday of next week will appear as Falstaff.

INCIDENTS IN SOCIETY.

The second of the three small and early dances arranged by several young matrons for young married people was held at Sherry's last night. The guests were received in the Pink Room by the ladies who organized the dances—Mrs. Edward W. Humphries, Mrs. Hoffman Miller, Mrs. Frederick Wesson, Mrs. Stanley Walker Dexter, Mrs. Walter Jennings and Mrs. Henry E. Cox. The cotillion was danced shortly after 10 o'clock. Alexander M. Hadden leading alone. The favors were fancy paper balls, bows, hats and mottoes. Some of those present were Mr. and Mrs. Howell Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Harry McVicker, Mr. and Mrs. Birney Fellows, Mr. and Mrs. John Jay White, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. William Barclay Parsons, Mr. and Mrs. Davis Johnson, Miss Edith Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lyman Short, J. Clinch Smith, Miss Bacon, Miss Hawley, Miss Elsie Simmler, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Sloan, Jr., Miss MacCulloch Miller, Charles A. Appling, Dr. Lewis Rutherford Morris, A. Gordon Norrie and William G. Rockefeller.

General and Mrs. J. Watt Kearny will give a dinner party to-night at their home, No. 19 East Fifty-fourth-st.

Mr. and Mrs. Percival Kilmer gave the fourth of their series of dinners at their home, No. 22 West Fifty-sixth-st., last evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. James. The next dinner will take place on February 14.

John C. King of No. 88 Madison-ave., will be here to-morrow and the following Saturday from 4 until 7 o'clock. To-morrow Mrs. Kelly will be here to-morrow and the following Saturday from 4 until 7 o'clock. To-morrow Mrs. G. Johnson, Mrs. E. McIntyre, Mrs. George B. Johnson, Miss Ray and Miss Kathryn Irwin, of Montreal, Quebec, will be here to-morrow and the following Saturday from 4 until 7 o'clock.

Mrs. George Rainford Talbot, of No. 175 West Seventy-second-st., will give today the second of her Friday receptions in February.

WEDDINGS PAST AND TO COME.

In the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Ascension, Fifth-ave. and Tenth-st., at noon yesterday, Miss Edith Morgan, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Morgan, of Great Neck, L. I., was married to Butler Williamson, a son of Mrs. David B. Williamson of this city. The bride was given away by her father. There were neither bridesmaids nor maid of honor. George De Witt Williamson attended his brother as best man. The parents were Frederic Foster Farley, Francis G. Landrum, Charles A. Van Rensselaer and Matthew Morgan, Jr., a cousin of the bride. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. E. E. Butler of Madison, N. J., an uncle of the bridegroom. A reception and breakfast for the family and intimate friends followed at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. August Belmont, Madison-ave. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Herman S. Le Roy, Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Dodge, Mr. and Mrs. H. Van Rensselaer Kennedy, Samuel D. Babcock, the Misses Babcock, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Post, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Street, Miss Alice Post, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fisher Banks, Miss Banks and the Misses Williamson.

Miss Lila Nichols and Oscar Livingston, whose engagement was announced last November, were quietly married yesterday afternoon at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Washington R. Nichols, No. 356 Lexington-ave. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Lehman, of St. Agnes' Roman Catholic Church, East Forty-first-st. There were only relatives at the ceremony, and there was no reception.

Washington, Feb. 7.—Charles Denby, Jr., secretary of the United States Legation at Peking, was entertained at dinner last night, in company with a few friends, by the Secretary of State and Mrs. Gresham. Mr. Denby is in this country on leave of absence. He will return to Miss Orr, daughter of Alexander Orr, of Evansville, Ind., in a few days, and with his wife will return to China and resume his diplomatic duties. Mr. Denby had been stationed at Peking for seven years as secretary of the Legation, and speaks the language of that country fluently.

General Cope will preside at the banquet, and a number of well-known men will speak. In his thirty-third year, Mr. Denby is a man of great energy and a decided leader. The Grand dinner of the country was given by the Grand Banquet Association of this city.

"I DECLINE TO RUN."

From The Newark Advertiser.

Queen Liliuokalani's letter of abdication remains a Philadelphia contemporary of Senator McPherson's election to run.

INTERESTING, IF NOT IMPORTANT.

From The Philadelphia Times.

The abdication of Queen Liliuokalani is interesting, if not important. It is done under duress, with the evident design of assuaging the wrath of the men who have been instrumental in forcing her to abdicate. The author of the letter is the Rev. Dr. John F. Dole and his associates in the government of the Republic of Hawaii. The position of the French is not clear, but she is a prisoner and is helpless to assist her, so the letter is signed as voluntary and final, so far as she is concerned.

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NOTeworthy, IF NOT IMPORTANT.

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ITS EFFECT ON THE NATIVES.

From The Philadelphia Press.

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ONE REDEEMING FEATURE, ANYWAY.

From The Boston Journal.

Those who repeat the stories which Liliuokalani's British army will make a handsome addition to the military resources of the new republic.

MISS ANNA GOULD AGAIN.

SAID TO BE ENGAGED TO THE COUNT DE CASTELLANE.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT MADE BY THE COUNT TO HIS FRIENDS.

The friends of Count de Castellane, of Paris, were congratulating him yesterday upon his announcement of his engagement to Miss Anna Gould, daughter of Jay Gould. His friends said that there could be no doubt about it, as the Count announced it himself, but there were others who were inclined to be doubtful for the reason that Miss Gould's engagements and reported engagements in recent months have been numerous. Then, too, not long ago, when one of these rumors was started, George J. Gould, her brother, said that when his sister became engaged he would send word to the newspapers. Mr. Gould sent no word about this engagement yesterday.

The Count de Castellane came to this country last August. He went from New-York almost immediately to Newport, where he was seen at all the large social entertainments. He led the cotillion at the Renaissance there, and at the large party which Mrs. Parsons Stevens gave he led the cotillion with Mrs. A. Holt, daughter of the Count. The Count's attentions to Miss Gould since her return from abroad have been marked. He has frequently visited George J. Gould, and recently, when Mr. and Mrs. Gould went to Canada, Miss Anna Gould and the Count were of the party.

The Count de Castellane is a fine-looking man about thirty years old. He is a lover of sports and a good shot. He is a relative of Prince de Sagan, of Paris, and brought letters to this country which assured to him a generous reception. In this city during the winter he has been extensively entertained.

About a year ago the social world was startled by the announcement that Miss Gould was engaged to "Harry" Woodruff, a young actor. Members of the Gould family declined to discuss the subject, but the friends of Mr. Woodruff declared that there could be no doubt about the engagement. In support of this they cited the fact that the actor had returned from the stage and was preparing to enter the Yale Law School for a course of studies, and that he was now a constant companion of Miss Gould. She was engaged to W. M. Harrigan, the builder of this city, and to him she has been married. Now that the Woodruff-Gould disappearance is over, in moments of the while, from his gravity remains unchanged. It is a very droll performance, and there is much excellent artistic discretion in the comedian's even sustaining of it.

The representation of "The Major" can be cordially commended to those readers who seek amusement at the play. It is diversified with intermissions of song and dance. The negro characters are made grotesque by Mr. John Wild, Mr. William West, and their associates. The formidable and vociferous Hibernal is made effective and amusing by Mr. Charlie Keeler. A additional stage drama actual and laughable by Miss Hattie Moore. The Germans are competently depicted by Mr. H. A. Fisher and Mr. George Merritt. An excellent animal spring and brawn humor of Mrs. Annie Yeomans adds the performance with vivacity and joy. Wild, inelegant and boisterous though "The Major" may be the revival of Mr. Harrigan's talents made a bright and rather a dull dramatic season, and it ought to be generally observed.

EDWARD SIMMONS.

ON THE COLLEGE MAN IN BUSINESS.

NESS-OTHER SPEAKERS.

It takes more than a second-hand Western bazaar to damp the sturdy alumnae of Williams College. In spite of swishing snow and disabled transportation facilities, they poured into the ballroom of the Hotel Brunswick last evening in solid phalanx for their annual dinner. The good cheer that always greets the weary wayfarer who puts up at

WILLIAMS WIT AND WISDOM.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE NEW-YORK ALUMNI.

PROFESSOR BASCOM ON THE INSPIRATIONS OF COLLEGE LIFE, AND J. EDWARD SIMMONS.

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